

Wolf Centre Updates

Summer is here!... or so says the calendar, anyway. It's been a cool summer so far in the Golden area, but we've been busy with our wolf pack and our many visitors! We were lucky enough to get a sunny, hot summer day for our annual OPEN HOUSE, which was another great success!



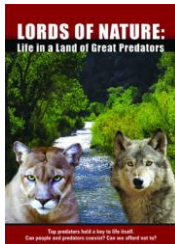
Kids Corner, Open House

We tried something new at our Open House this year...screening a documentary called Lords of Nature, which features wolves in Yellowstone and other top predators in ecosystems. Following the viewing of the film, there was a discussion where the audience could ask their questions to a panel of experts. We would like to thank our panel for their time and input:

- Mike Gibeau (carnivore specialist from Banff National Park),
- Roy Pagliaro (local hunter),
- Lucy E. (youth conservationist representing future),
- Peter Dettling (wildlife photographer and author),
- Casey Black (Northern Lights owner and conservation advocate),
- Ivanka Cankovic (moderator with background in ecology).



We recommend this film to everyone!



Over 200 locals and outsiders attended our Open House and learned about the wildlife management decisions being made in our backyard and across BC and Alberta.



Local conservation groups [Bear Aware](#) and [Wildsight](#) participated, Moab and Keehta's new EXPANDED enclosure and newly built viewing deck were unveiled, and through our barbeque fundraiser over the past 2 years we were able to donate \$1100 to Pamela Finny, a local woman who was diagnosed with cancer in 1994 at the age of 10. Since her diagnoses Pamela and her family have been through many surgeries and setbacks, but her passion for life and helping others, all the while not complaining, are an inspiration to us all.



We feel that cancer is often a factor of the environment. Pesticides, herbicides, idling vehicles, GMO (Genetically Modified) foods all contribute impurities INTO the system. They accumulate. Logging trees and filling-in wetlands for development compromises the Earth's ability to purify itself from these toxins. We like to think of the forests as the planet's lungs and the wetlands as the kidneys. Wild animals are also susceptible to cancer.

HOW DO WE HELP? We wanted to see money raised go directly to someone who needs help. How many millions of dollars are spent each year on cancer research? Pamela's next surgery is estimated to cost her \$15,000, none of which will be covered by Blue Cross or health care. Want less cancer? Want more wild spaces? Believe it or not these two things can go hand in hand. Choose to not pollute by refusing overpackaging, overprocessing, and products made of toxic chemicals. Learn to say No! Future generations of all species will thank you.

Important Dates!

- Jul 15: NLW's Silent Auction Begins
- Sept 4: National Wildlife Day
- Sept 16: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- Sept 21: Autumn Equinox
- Sept 22: World Carfree Day
- Sept 25: International Coastal Cleanup Day
- Oct 1-7: World Wildlife Day
- Oct 4: World Habitat Day
- Oct 17-23: Wolf Awareness Week

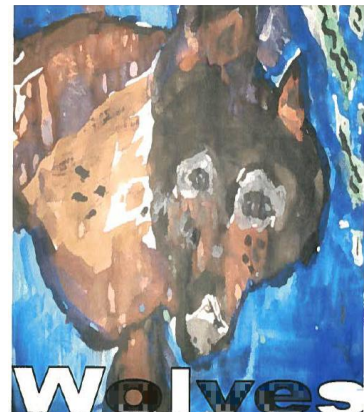
As always, Northern Lights Wildlife Centre is open every day of the year, so come by and visit us any day!

People to People / Nomad Tours

Each summer, we host hundreds of young Americans aged 10 and 11 traveling with Nomad Tours. These youth travel around North America to see, learn about, and experience the continent. This summer we have been ESPECIALLY impressed with these young travelers, as several groups have taken the initiative to support our wolf conservation work. These youth are the future. They are writing letters to their own government as well as ours, collecting donations for our centre, and spreading the awareness. Here's a big howl-out to PEOPLE TO PEOPLE and NOMAD TOURS...you CAN make a difference!

Wolves and Schools

Thanks to schools who hosted education programs before summer vacation! Each year we are seeing more kids who know more about wolves than their parents do...and we LOVE IT! Here's another inspiring drawing from the Nellie McClung school gang. If you have something "wolfy" that you want to share, send it to us and we may put it in our next newsletter!



-Mr. deBoer's Grade 2 Class, Nellie McClung School

Become a Sponsor!

Your contribution goes directly towards helping to feed and care for our wolves as well as spread the message of wolf conservation. You can adopt a wolf or become a pack member and receive updates about the pack and the wolf centre. We have also been able to send our Alpha Female, Shelley, to Red Deer, Edmonton, Calgary and to many communities in southern BC, where she educates people and works towards changing legislation to protect our wilderness.



We accept meat donations too!

Adopt a Wolf \$ 75

Pack Membership

- \$250 = Wolf Pack
- \$100 = Alpha Member
- \$ 50 = Beta Member
- \$ 20 = Puppy Member

New

\$1000 = Wolf Guardian
Receive a walk with a wolf in thanks

The Chase of Life

-by Lucy E

A mutual respect is felt between prey and predator.
A death; a meal.
A full on chase, challenging all involved.
A single rock that trips up an un-expecting hoof.
A lunge made by predator to the throat of the prey.
A single second and the deer is gone; dead.
A pack of wolves feasting, gorging, knowing they may not eat again for days.
A rejoicing of family as pups playfully eat; gaining energy.
A love felt throughout the pack, as if they are one.
A shown respect for the alpha's dominance, but all are truly joined together by undenyng loyalty.
A chorus of howls fill the starry sky.
A warning of territory and strength,
A cry of unknown terror.
A confusion as their home is becoming smaller.
A crack of a branch,
A flick of an ear,
Another chase.
A chase of greed.
A loud click,
An echoing boom.
A thump, as a body tumbles to the ground.
A sense of terror, of pity.
A choice of leaving a loved one or risking life.
Another branch is broken and the pack must keep going.
A bullet, shot into the heart of the alpha female.
A loss of a friend, a mother, a mate.
A hunter with a fulfilled goal.
A beautiful fur coat, worth good money, nothing more.
A selfish smile, one that doesn't understand.
A fire of life in her eyes leaves, and she is gone.
An event that is foretelling of a future of loss.
A loss of a hunter that is natural, that works hard.
A gain of a hunter that is unnatural, that is lazy and greedy, showing no responsibility for its actions.
An entire species; misunderstood.
A whole piece of a system, taken away by a monster.
An unbalanced ecosystem; soon to be doomed.
The deaths add up and soon none will be left.
Not only will they pass, but bring others with them.
A magnificent beast, taken, stolen from this world because of greed and ignorance.
A single life gone, but what will become of others?
Those that remain will fight, fight to be resilient, but they can't go on forever fighting the indestructible human race.
Unless changes are made more will follow her, leaving life, family and her job as a natural predator.
A howl is heard; lonely; calling for his mate, who will never reply his cry of despair.

Silent Auction

Calling all art-lovers and wolf lovers! Bev Potheary, a Vernon artist known for "Potheary's Paintings" recently discovered the Northern Lights Wolf Centre on-line, then came to visit us to learn more. Bev decided she wanted to help our cause, and generously donated 3 exquisite wolf renditions for fundraising. We will auction her artwork off one at a time, beginning with "Young Curiosity" which features 3 pups in a pen and ink drawing. Bev is also very talented with pastels. To make a bid on this original artwork, you can e-mail us or visit the centre. All proceeds will go to caring for our wolves, furthering our education programs and subsidize transportation costs to schools. Auction is NOW open... start your bidding!



Conservation Corner

MOUNTAIN CARIBOU UPDATE

Our campaign to put an end to predator control in BC is ongoing. Aside from telling our visitors about the flawed plan, we have been collecting signatures for a sign-on letter put together by Animal Alliance of Canada in support of the Environmental group sign-on letter submitted in early May. So far we have well over 1,000 signatures, and we will be submitting them all together to our MLA Norm MacDonald during our next meeting with him.

Furthermore, we have received a response from the letter we sent to Jim Prentice (Federal Minister of Environment) and Barry Penner (BC minister of Environment). We will be **WRITING BACK!!!!** Check out the Coalition website to view correspondence and see what raises your hackles!

KARELIAN BEAR DOG UPDATE

We have recently received a letter from Mike Badry (BC Minister of the Environment) in response to ours asking for an amendment to the BC Wildlife Act to allow the use of Bear Shepherding. This is where Karelian Bear Dogs are used to train 'problem bears' to avoid humans – with the potential of saving hundreds of bears lives each year in BC. Turns out Mr. Badry doesn't believe these dogs are effective at their job, based on a recent study conducted in Whistler, and thus sees no need to change the law. In reality, the study encourages the use of aversive conditioning techniques including dogs, but states that we need better enforcement (something the government is ALSO not doing) to ensure proper management of bear attractants. We will continue our push to get Bear Shepherding legalized in BC. Check out our website and blog for more information!

WOLVES IN BC

Did you know that in BC wolves are considered a class 3 species by the government, and as such people are "ENCOURAGED" to trap wolves? Trapping regulations allow the use of neck snares, which have been banned in many countries around the world for their cruelty. Trappers using killing traps are only required to check the trap every **14 days**. That can be a long time suffering if things don't work properly... Each year, many dogs and other animals are also injured or killed in these traps. Is this the culture that Canada is so proud of?

NEW LETTERS

We have created a NEW letter to the Minister of the Environment and provincial Premiers where YOU ask the question about wildlife management in Canada that irks you most. The letters ask for responses in simple terms. Below is one such question:

"When all evidence points to the fact that a healthy wolf population contributes to a healthy forest ecosystem – both flora and fauna, why are the wolves not fully protected and valued as the great contributors they are to the wildlife of Canada?"

These are simple questions. There are simple answers. It will be interesting to see how the government will respond. Comments from locals and international visitors are similar. We **CAN demand** change. Never doubt the power of the pen.

For more wolf conservation news and information on how you can help, visit the **Canadian Wolf Coalition**:
www.canadianwolfcoalition.com

Other Updates

We have a new logo to add to our collection! We wanted something fun, fresh, and instantly recognizable. Check it out!

We have NEW merchandise available in our gift shop and on-line to add to your Northern Lights wardrobe collection. It's a great way to support us through a fashion statement. Get yours today!



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